They observed that water was flowing over the track, by more than 1 foot, above the rail level. Apprehending the likely breach at km. 304, they stopped Ananthapuri Exp. (6123 Exp.) The train left Pullambadi station at 0140 hrs. and was stopped at 0155 hrs. on 24.11.2005.

(c) In recognition of patrolman's alertness on duty and to inculcate the same spirit among other staff, they had been awarded suitably at various levels.

Passengers travelling on fake ticket

†3503. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases in which passengers were found travelling on fake railway tickets during the last eight months; and

(b) the number of persons prosecuted for the offence of travelling on fake railway tickets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) During the period January-November, 2005, 47 cases of passengers travelling on fake railway tickets have been reported and 400 persons have been arrested in this regard.

Consumption and Export of Iron Ore

3504. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:
SHRI CHITTABRATA MAJUMDAR:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the production, consumption and export of iron-ore during the last three years; and

(b) the projected consumption and export of iron ore during the next three years?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) The

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

production, consumption and export of iron-ore during the last three years are as under:

(Qty: in million tonnes)

Year	Production	Consumption	Export
2002-03	99.072	49.98	48.02
2003-04	120.60	51.62	62.57
2004-05 (Provl.)	142.7	54.00*	78.14

Source: MMTC for exports, Indian Bureau of Mines for Production, Dang Committee Report (2005) for consumption.

* as per estimates of Ministry of Steel.

(b) Government has not made any projections for iron ore consumption and exports covering the next 3 years. However, long term projections have been made in the National Steel Policy. As per the National Steel Policy total domestic demand for iron ore is estimated at 190 million tonnes by 2019-2020. Exports are estimated at 100 million tonnes by the same year.

Coal Crises with Sponge Iron Industry

3505. SHRIMATI JAMANA DEVI BARUPAL:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the country's sponge iron industry, the largest in the world with an annual production of ten million tonnes and accounting for 17.84 per cent of global production, is affected due to coal crises;

(b) whether 54 per cent of sponge iron produced here is coal based while 45 per cent is gas based;

(c) the steps Government propose to take to help the industry which is in group of coal prices;

(d) whether any concrete proposal has been worked out in this regard; and